



Houston MSTC Academic Honesty Policy

The IB Student at the Houston Math Science and Technology Center Middle Years Program (MYP) is expected to hold themselves to the highest standard of academic honesty as referenced in the IB Learner Profile traits of being principled, reflective students. This applies to all academic areas including daily work, collaboration, assessment, personal interactions, and ethical behavior. It is important for our students to learn what it means to be principled in their academic work and, therefore, prepare them for success in their future careers.

The following attributes of the learner profile include key elements related to academic honesty:

- Principled
 - Students act with integrity and honesty;
 - Students take responsibility for their own actions and the consequences that accompany them;
 - Students possess a strong sense of fairness and justice.
- Inquirers – Students develop the necessary skills to pursue their investigations and questions while conducting research.
- Communicators – Students take responsibility for asking questions when they do not understand the components or expectations of an assignment.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is defined as collusion, plagiarism, falsification and cheating.

“Academic misconduct includes:

- plagiarism- the representation, intentionally or unwittingly, of the ideas, words or work of another person without proper, clear and explicit acknowledgement
- collusion- supporting academic misconduct by another student, as in allowing one’s work to be copied or submitted for assessment by another
- duplication of work- the presentation of the same work for different assessment components
- any other behaviour that gives an unfair advantage to a student or that affects the results of another student (falsifying data, misconduct during an examination, creating spurious reflections).”

- MYP: From principles into practice

Violation of the Academic Honesty Policy

Houston Independent School District defines cheating, plagiarism, or copying the work of other students as a Level II Act of Misconduct and the following Disciplinary Options/Responses are warranted:

- Parental contact by phone and written or oral notification to parent or guardian
- Required administrator/student/parental conference



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- Detention or placement in in-school suspension
- Exclusion from extracurricular activities, such as field trips, and commencement exercises/award ceremonies
- “Behavior,” “behavioral,” and/or “conduct” contracts
- Any other appropriate disciplinary actions determined by the Administration

Procedures:

1. Referral to administrator by way of written report not to exceed one page in length
2. Administrator confers with student and/or teacher to establish appropriate action.
3. Written or oral notification of action is sent to parent. Notification is sent to the teacher indicating action taken.
4. Discipline Referral Form is retained by the administrator

IB Policy Review

The IB policies will be reviewed by the Leadership team and a voluntary team of teachers annually.

References

Houston Independent School District. (2018). Code of Student Conduct. Retrieved from https://www.houstonisd.org/cms/lib2/TX01001591/Centricity/Domain/636/2018-19CodeOfConduct_Eng.pdf

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Lanier Middle School. IB Middle Years Academic Honesty Policy. Retrieved from <https://www.houstonisd.org/Page/167411>

Shotwell Middle School. Academic Honesty Policy. Retrieved from http://shotwellms.aldineisd.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_10209/File/IB%20MYP%20Academic%20Honesty%20Policy.pdf

